From: Michael Cole
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 4:45pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello, my name is Michael Cole. I live in San Francisco California. I am writing about the proposed Microsoft Settlement.

I am against the proposed settlement. I think the settlement is weak and changes very little with regards to Microsoft's ability to bully OEM's. Microsoft has shown little good faith in the past and the proposed settlement depends heavily on that good-faith.

The publishing of documentation about the API's does VERY little to limit their monopoly. These API's can change at any time and don't even need to be documented well. How exactly does requiring a monopolist to publish how their product works equate to a remedy for their monopoly?

In closing, I think the settlement has very little teeth and will, in the end, only secure Microsoft's position as a monopolist by providing a way for them to say "look, I follow these rules, I CANT be a monopoly"

Please consider a more permanent, structural change to the company - a settlement that does not rest on their good-faith.

Best regards,

Michael Cole